

RESOLUTION NO.: 11-09

RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND THE
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
HIALEAH, URGING THE MEMBERS OF
CONGRESS TO INTRODUCE
LEGISLATION OPPOSING CULTURAL
EXCHANGES BETWEEN CUBA AND THE
UNITED STATES SO LONG AS THE
CUBAN GOVERNMENT CONTINUES ITS
VIOLATION OF BASIC FREEDOMS AND
HUMAN RIGHTS.

WHEREAS, the Cuban people have suffered under a totalitarian dictatorship for over half a century; and

WHEREAS, countless innocent Cubans have been detained, imprisoned, tortured, maimed and executed for the simple act of exercising their basic human rights; and

WHEREAS, in the 1990s, President Bill Clinton opened a cultural exchange program with Cuban that allowed Americans and Cuban-Americans to visit Cuba and, as result, some Cuban government-sponsored artists and writers were allowed to tour and work in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Americans and Cuban-Americans critical of the Cuban government were not allowed to enter Cuba; and

WHEREAS, in 2004, after the Cuban government ordered the execution by firing squad of three teenagers who tried to hijack a boat to flee Cuba, and sentenced 75 dissidents to up to 28 years in prison, President George W. Bush suspended the cultural exchange with Cuba and imposed restrictions on trips and Cuban-American remittances to the island; and

WHEREAS, in 2010, President Barack Obama, under the Cuban Assets Control Regulations, Title 31, Part 515 of the United States Code of Federal Regulations, relaxed such restrictions to pre-2004 levels, and also began a new cultural exchange between the United States and Cuba, with the hope that his actions would encourage the Castro regime to release political prisoners and restore some fundamental freedoms; and

WHEREAS, the Cuban government has shown no improvement toward respecting basic human rights; and

WHEREAS, under the pretense of cultural exchange, Cuba is sending communist agents spreading pro-Castro propaganda in order to provoke the Cuban community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HIALEAH, FLORIDA, THAT:


ITEM # 1

FEB 08 2011

Section 1. The foregoing facts and recitations contained in the preamble of this resolution are hereby adopted and incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

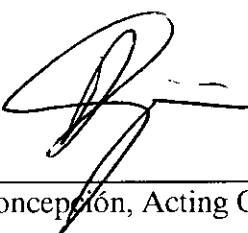
Section 2. The Mayor and the City Council of the City of Hialeah urge the members of Congress to introduce legislation opposing cultural exchanges between Cuba and the United States so long as the Cuban government continues its violation of basic freedoms and human rights.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 8th day of February, 2011.

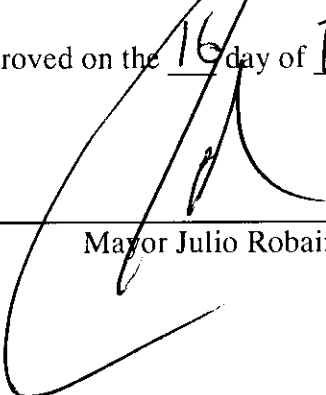


Carlos Hernández
Council President

Attest:



David Concepción, Acting City Clerk

Approved on the 16 day of February, 2011.


Mayor Julio Robaina

Approved as to legal sufficiency and form:

 K.C.

William M. Grodnick, City Attorney



City of Miami

Legislation

Resolution

City Hall
3500 Pan American
Drive
Miami, FL 33133
www.miamigov.com

File Number: 10-01440

Final Action Date:

A RESOLUTION OF THE MIAMI CITY COMMISSION URGING THE MEMBERS OF CONGRESS TO INTRODUCE LEGISLATION OPPOSING CULTURAL EXCHANGES BETWEEN CUBA AND THE UNITED STATES SO LONG AS THE CUBAN GOVERNMENT CONTINUES ITS VIOLATION OF BASIC FREEDOMS AND HUMAN RIGHTS; DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK TO TRANSMIT A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION TO THE ELECTED OFFICIALS AS STATED HEREIN.

WHEREAS, the people of Cuba have suffered under a totalitarian dictatorship for nearly half a century; and

WHEREAS, countless innocent Cubans have been detained, imprisoned, tortured, maimed and executed for the simple act of exercising their basic human rights; and

WHEREAS, in the 1990s, President Bill Clinton opened a cultural exchange program with Cuba that allowed Americans and Cuban Americans to visit Cuba, and some Cuban government-sponsored artists and writers were allowed to tour and work in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Americans or Cuban Americans critical of the Cuban government, were not allowed to enter Cuba; and

WHEREAS, in 2004, after the Cuban government ordered the execution by a firing squad of three black teenagers who tried to hijack a boat to flee Cuba and sentenced 75 dissidents to up to 28 years in prison, President George W. Bush suspended the cultural exchange with Cuba and imposed restrictions to trips and Cuban American remittances to the island; and

WHEREAS, this year, President Barack Obama, under the Cuban Assets Control Regulations, Title 31, Part 515 of the United States Code of Federal Regulations, relaxed such restrictions to the levels they were before 2004, and also began a new cultural exchange between the United States and Cuba with the hope that his actions encourage the Castros' regime to release political prisoners and restore some fundamental freedoms; and

WHEREAS, the Cuban government has shown no improvement toward respecting basic human rights; and

WHEREAS, under the pretense of cultural exchange, Cuba is sending communist agents spreading pro-Castro propaganda in order to provoke the Cuban community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI, FLORIDA:

Section 1. The recitals and findings contained in the Preamble to this Resolution are adopted by

reference and incorporated as if fully set forth in this Section.

Section 2. The Miami City Commission urges the members of Congress to oppose legislation permitting cultural exchanges between Cuba and the United States so long as the Cuban government continues its violation of basic freedoms and human rights.

Section 3. The City Clerk is directed to transmit a copy of this Resolution to President Barack Obama, the Speaker of the House, the Senate Majority Leader, Senators Bill Nelson and George LeMieux, the Miami-Dade County United States and to the Miami-Dade County Congressional Legislative Delegation.

Section 4. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption and signature of the Mayor.{1}

Footnotes:

{1} If the Mayor does not sign this Resolution, it shall become effective at the end of ten calendar days from the date it was passed and adopted. If the Mayor vetoes this Resolution, it shall become effective immediately upon override of the veto by the City Commission.